

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 MCE-00 EUR-12 /091 W

-----036886 150551Z /12

R 141433Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2033

INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 13433

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: SOMALI PLOY FOR US ARMS SUPPLY

1. DURING CALL ON ME OCTOBER 13, IRANIAN AMBASSADOR AHAMED TAVAKOLI, SAID THAT THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN MOGADISCIO HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY THE ACTING SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER WITH THE PROPOSITION THAT SOMALIA WOULD BE WILLING TO RENOUNCE PUBLICLY ALL CLAIMS ON KENYA TERRITORY IF THE WESTERN POWERS DECIDED TO REPLACE THE SOVIET UNION AS THE CHIEF SOURCE OF ARMS SUPPLY TO SOMALIA. AMBASSADOR TAVAKOLI SAID THAT THIS INFORMATION HAD ALSO BEEN TRANSMITTED TO HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. AMBASSADOR TAVAKOLI ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE HEARD, SOURCE NOT IDENTIFIED, THAT WILLIAM ETEKI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OAU, HAD COMMENTED THAT ETHNICITY SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENT OVER THE INTEGRITY OF COLONIALY ESTABLISHED BOUNDARIES IN DETERMINING THE FRONTIERS OF INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES. TAVAKOLI SEEMED TO INTERPRET THIS AS PERHAPS PRESAGING A SHIFT IN OAU POLICY.

3. COMMENT: GIVEN SOMALI SCRAMBLE FOR NEW SOURCE OF ARMS,
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I WOULD ASSUME THAT TAVAKOLI'S RENDITION OF SOMALI OFFICIALS' REMARKS WAS ACCURATE. I DO NOT, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT KENYAN GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE ANY CREDENCE TO SOMALI ASSURANCES AND WOULD NOT LOOK WITH EQUANIMITY AT US ARMS DELIVERIES TO SOMALIA, EVEN IF SUCH ASSURANCE WERE PUBLICLY PRONOUNCED.

4. IN UNRELATED CONVERSATION, EGYPTIAN COUNSELOR, MAHMOUD

HAFEZ, TODAY TOLD DCM THAT ACCORDING TO EGYPTIAN INFORMATION
IRAN WAS SUPPLYING ARMS TO SOMALIA.

5. WE HAVE NO WAY OF CONFIRMING OR DENYING THE ALLEGED ETEKI
STATEMENT, BUT IT SOUNDS TOTALLY UNREASONABLE AND UNLIKELY
TO US.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB13433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770378-0763
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771060/aaaabymt.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 918961
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI PLOY FOR US ARMS SUPPLY
TAGS: MILI, MASS, PBOR, SO, IR, KE, UR, (ETEKI MBOUMOUA, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2ac45b2f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009